

— Capsule Summary
SM-154
Russell Farmhouse
Clements Vicinity
Private

c. late 1850s

The Russell farmhouse, constructed in the late 1850s, is a two-story, three bay, frame dwelling with a single pile, center passage plan and a gable roof located near the intersection of Colton Point and Sunnyside Roads near Clements, Maryland. The dwelling, which features a one-and-a-half story frame kitchen with a stone chimney, is surrounded by a series of tobacco barns, corn cribs, a log meathouse, an equipment shed, stripping shed, a horse barn and a modern brick house. Despite several modern additions and alterations, the dwelling retains its floor plan, framing system, and overall form.

— The house sits upon a tract called "Bachelor's Rest" once part of a 207 3/4 acre property that was purchased by James Marcellus Russell and his wife Ann Thompson Russell at an auction from George C. Morgan, a trustee nominated by the St. Mary's County Circuit Court. In a court case between George Saxton et al vs Teresa Thompson et al, the court ordered the sale of the property on October 3, 1855. The property was not sold to the Russell family, however, until December 16, 1858. While the tract presently contains approximately seventy acres, the farm remains in the ownership of the Russell family. The house and farm complex is significant, therefore, as a good example of a mid-nineteenth century dwelling that has been owned by five different generations of the Russell family.

SM-154, Russell Farmhouse
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870
Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building
Historic Environment: Rural
Historic Function and Use: Residence
Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-154

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Russell Farmhouse

and/or common

2. Location

0.1 mile S of the intersection of Sunnyside and Colton's Point Roads, on the W side of Colton's Point Road
street & number 24599 Colton Point Road not for publication

city, town Clements vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mary Elizabeth Russell

street & number PO Box 116 telephone no.:

city, town Clements state and zip code Md 20650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber MRB 19

street & number folio 374

city, town Leonardtown state Md

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Joseph Thompson Farmhouse

date August 1970 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. SM-154

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: 2

The Russell Farm is located on the west side of Colton Point Road just south of the intersection of Sunnyside and Colton Point Roads near Clements, Maryland. The farm complex consisting of thirteen buildings, is situated on a small knoll overlooking Colton Point Road. The complex, located in the midst of fields reserved for cattle grazing, is approached via a dirt road lined with a corn crib, storage shed, horse barn, stripping shed, equipment shed, and a tobacco barn. At the head of the road is the older dwelling and a modern brick house. Several other worksheds, a log meathouse, and two tobacco barns are located in the fields surrounding the farmhouse. Several plum, apple, cherry, and pear trees are scattered throughout the property.

Constructed in the late 1850s, the Russell farmhouse is a two story, three bay, braced frame dwelling with a single pile, center passage plan, gable roof and an attached one-and-a-half story kitchen. The dwelling is situated on a stone foundation and the walls are sheathed with faux brick, asbestos shingles. These shingles cover the original clapboard sheathing. Two exterior end, brick chimneys extend beyond the roof which is covered with raised seam metal. While the building has received a number of alterations including the replacement of window sash, several additions, and the replacement of the interior stair.

The east or primary elevation features a shed roof enclosed porch that extends from the main body of the farmhouse. The enclosed porch features a centrally located screen door flanked to the south by two sets of paired, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. To the north of the door is a set of three, six-over-six windows and a single six-over-six window. The fenestration of the house's main section can still be seen in the porch. It consists of a centrally located panel door flanked on either side by paired six-over-six windows. The second floor windows are symmetrically aligned with those located on the first floor. These bays consist of a centrally located six-over-six window flanked on either side by paired six-over-six windows.

The south elevation consists of the gable end of the main house, the side of the east porch, the side of the addition attaching the main house to the kitchen and the front of the attached kitchen. The end of the east porch features two six-over-six windows. The gable end of the house exhibits a centrally located, varying ratio common bond chimney with a stone foundation and one set of shoulders. The chimney is flanked on both sides by a six-over-six window on the first and second floor. The attic story is lit by two, four-light casement windows. The side of the addition connecting the main house to the kitchen features a six-over-six window. The one-and-a-half story kitchen, oriented on a north-south axis with the primary elevation facing south features a screen porch that shades a two bay front. The two bays consist of a panel door and a six-over-six window. An enclosed stair to the half story of the kitchen is entered via the screen porch rather than the interior of the kitchen.

The west elevation consists of the kitchen's gable end and the rear elevation of the main house. The kitchen features a large, randomly laid, stone chimney with a brick top. On either side of the chimney is a six-over-six window. The main house's rear elevation features a one story shed roof addition. This addition features a centrally located door flanked on the north side by two six-over-six windows. The second floor of the main house features a centrally located six-over-six window flanked on either side by paired six-over-six windows.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-154

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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The house sits upon a tract called "Bachelor's Rest" once part of a 207 3/4 acre property that was purchased by James Marcellus Russell and his wife Ann Thompson Russell at an auction from George C. Morgan, a trustee nominated by the St. Mary's County Circuit Court. In a court case between George Saxton et al vs Teresa Thompson et al, the court ordered the sale of the property on October 3, 1855. The property was not sold to the Russell family, however, until December 16, 1858. While the tract presently contains approximately seventy acres, the farm remains in the ownership of the Russell family. The house and farm complex is significant, therefore, as a good example of a mid-nineteenth century dwelling that has been owned by five different generations of the Russell family.

SM-154, Russell Farm
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

The north elevation of the kitchen displays a single door. The north side of the main house features a six-over-six window on the one story rear shed addition. It also features a centrally located, varying ratio common bond chimney with a stone foundation and one set of shoulders. The chimney is flanked on both sides by a six-over-six window on the first and second floors. The attic story is lit by two, four-light casement windows.

The original interior of the dwelling consisted of a central stair passage flanked on either side by a parlor with a modest mantle consisting of square engaged columns, plain frieze, and a curvilinear shelf. The second floor contained a stair passage although part of which was later converted into a room. Like the first floor, the central stair passage was flanked on either side by a room. The one-and-a-half story kitchen building was originally not connected with the main house. Oral history suggests that the kitchen predates the main house. An assessment of the architectural evidence could neither refute nor support this belief.

The property also contains a log meathouse with a gable metal roof. The logs are horizontally laid and joined at the corners with square notches. The logs are covered on the exterior with horizontal, circular sawn boards but left exposed on the interior. The meathouse contains a single door located on the west elevation. The meat, stored in the interior, was hung from ceiling beams that lapped over the top logs on the east and west sides. The roof is constructed of a false plate that supports skinned log rafters that are butted at the roof peak.

SM-154, Russell Farmhouse
Clements Vicinity
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Deed Reference: Liber MRB 19, Folio 374

Grantee: J. Edward Russell, Jr. and Mary Elizabeth Russell

Grantor: Thelma Jane, John Steven, Delores Angela, Robin Patrick, and Sandra Marie Russell

Date: June 10, 1978

Deed Reference: Will Record Liber MRB 5, Folio 187

Grantee: James Edward Russell, Jr.

Grantor: James Edward Russell, Sr.

Date: August 26, 1966

Notes: James Edward Russell, Sr. devised the property to his sons J. Edward Russell, Jr. and J. Albert Russell. According to an inventory of the property, the tract consisted of 128 acres with 62 of the acres listed as arable and 66 acres listed as woodland and pasture. The inventory also lists the main dwelling and tenant house as worth \$4,300 and \$2,900 respectively. Both dwellings are described as lacking central heating and plumbing. Eight miscellaneous small buildings, a granary, and eight barns are also listed.

Deed Reference: Will Record ACM 1, Folio 442, Inventory Record ACM 1, Folio 363

Grantee: Martha A. Russell and James Edward Russell, Sr.

Grantor: Jackson Patrick Francis "Frank" Russell

Date: January 25, 1941

Notes: Jackson P. F. Russell devised the entire property to his wife Martha A. Russell. The will also stipulates that the property would revert to his son James Edward Russell, Sr. upon her death. Here the property is listed as containing 128 acres with the buildings described as "in bad repair."

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 1, Folio 294

Grantee: Jackson P. F. Russell

Grantor: James M. Russell

Date: April 14, 1900

Notes: In this deed James Marcelus Russell devises the property to his son Jackson Patrick Francis Russell.

Deed Reference: Liber JTB 3, Folio 45

Grantee: James M. Russell

Grantor: George C. Morgan, sheriff

Date: December 16, 1858

Notes: As a result of a Court of Equity decision involving George Saxton et al vs. Teresa Thompson et al, the property is sold at auction. Apparently John Saxton had died "seized and possessed" or in debt and the property had to be sold in order for Saxton's debtors to receive the money owed. The property is called "Bachelor's Rest" and contained 207 3/4 acres. Later, in August 23, 1859 the Russell's sold 65 acres of the property to Louis Graves (see also SM-500). Several other smaller parcels were subsequently sold as well. It is probably at this time that the present frame house was erected.

SM-154, Russell Farmhouse
Clements Vicinity
8.2 Significance

Chain-of-Title (cont.)

Deed Reference: (Mortgage) Liber WTM 1, Folio 105

Grantee: John Saxton

Grantor: James Saxton of Charles County

Date: August 24, 1846

Notes: John Saxton takes out a mortgage on Bachelor's Rest which contains 207 3/4 acres.

Deed Reference: Liber JH 10, Folio 511

Grantee: John Saxton

Grantor: Luke E. Barber, trustee

Date: September 20, 1836

Notes: Here John Saxton purchases the property at auction. Eleanor Bailey apparently died with significant debts and in order to settle her estate "Bachelor's Rest" had to be sold.

S M. -154
JOSEPH THOMPSON FARM

early 19th century

Clements

Private

Of frame construction, this two-story farmhouse is three bays in length and retains two exterior chimneys at each end elevation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

19 01 54 5309

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME

COMMON: *Thompson Farmhouse near Clements*
 10299 ~~near Clements~~ (Joseph Thompson Farm)
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: (Colton Point Road)
Rt. 242 near Sunnyside Rd.

CITY OR TOWN:
Clements

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: St. Mary's

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION:	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Joseph W. Thompson

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
 St. Mary's County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Washington Street and Courthouse Drive

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:
 Leonardtown Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unclered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Joseph Thompson Farmhouse is a two-story frame farmhouse three bays ~~to~~ in length with ~~an~~ outside chimneys at each gable.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(Faint, illegible text)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA *LEONARDTOWN QUA*

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NDMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

(Large empty space for justification)

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Bourne

ORGANIZATION: _____ DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SM-154 Thompson Farmhouse (Russell Farmhouse)

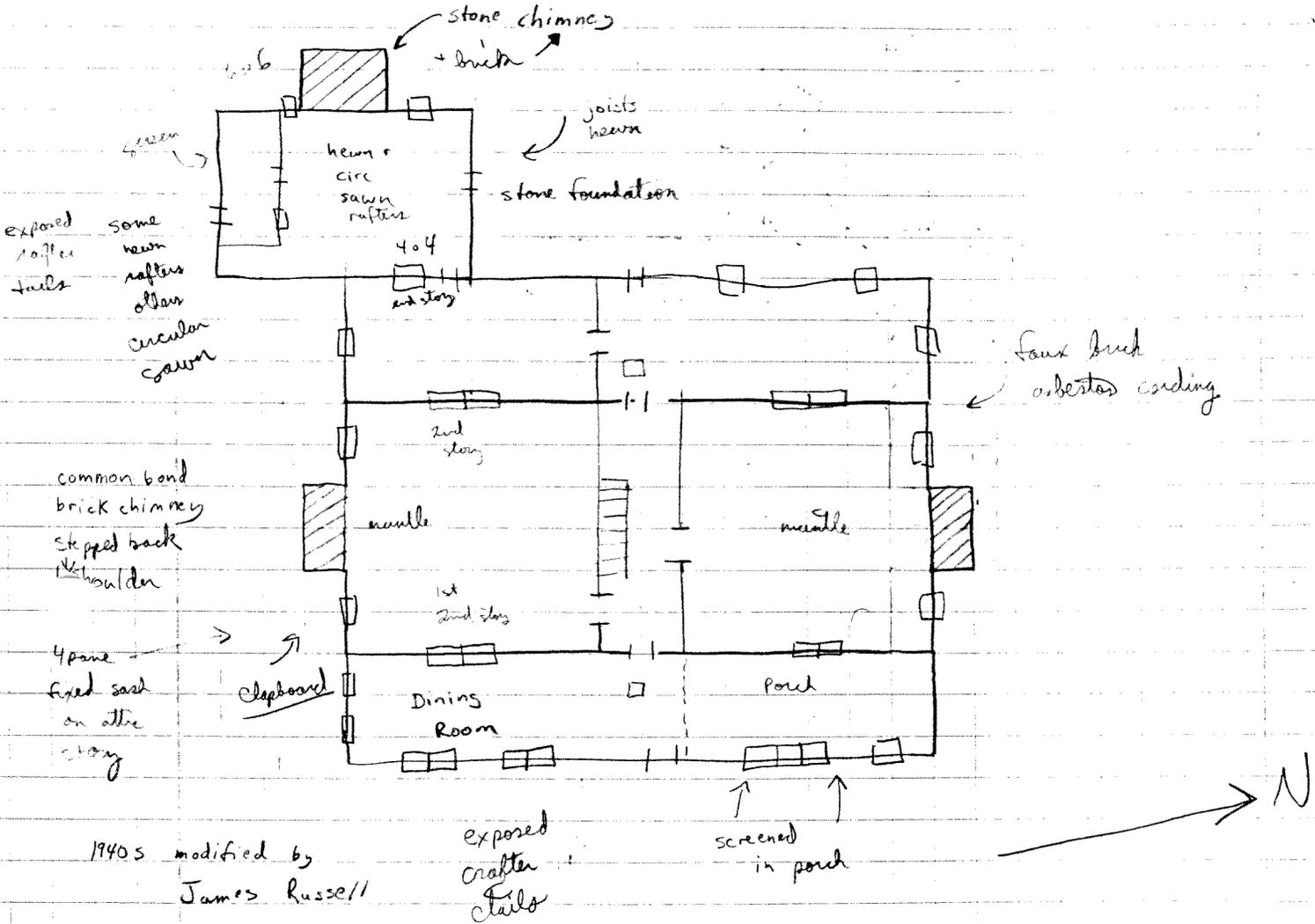
Feb 26, 1997

Walnut
Plum
Cherry
Pear
apple

c. 1860

George Raley
Jack Russell

S = on R => Swann property



1940s modified by James Russell

1883 Family Bible

James M. Russell born Oct 28, 1819
William J. Russell born Dec 5, 1859

→ hoops go out in the late 1960s
cattle stay on

SM-154

Russell Farmhouse

47

Clements Vicinity, Maryland
Feb 26, 1997

to tobacco barn
1970's

split barn
1970's
tobacco barn

worked
worked
log meathouse
Old well
square notched
new logs
butted rafters
& kneeed logs
false posts

modern house

Main House

storage barn

New well
sweeping
mulching
old hardwoods

120
x
30

gambrel
roof
tobacco barn
racks
1982

stripping
shed
(concrete
block)

machine
shop

horse
barn

shed roof
storage
shed

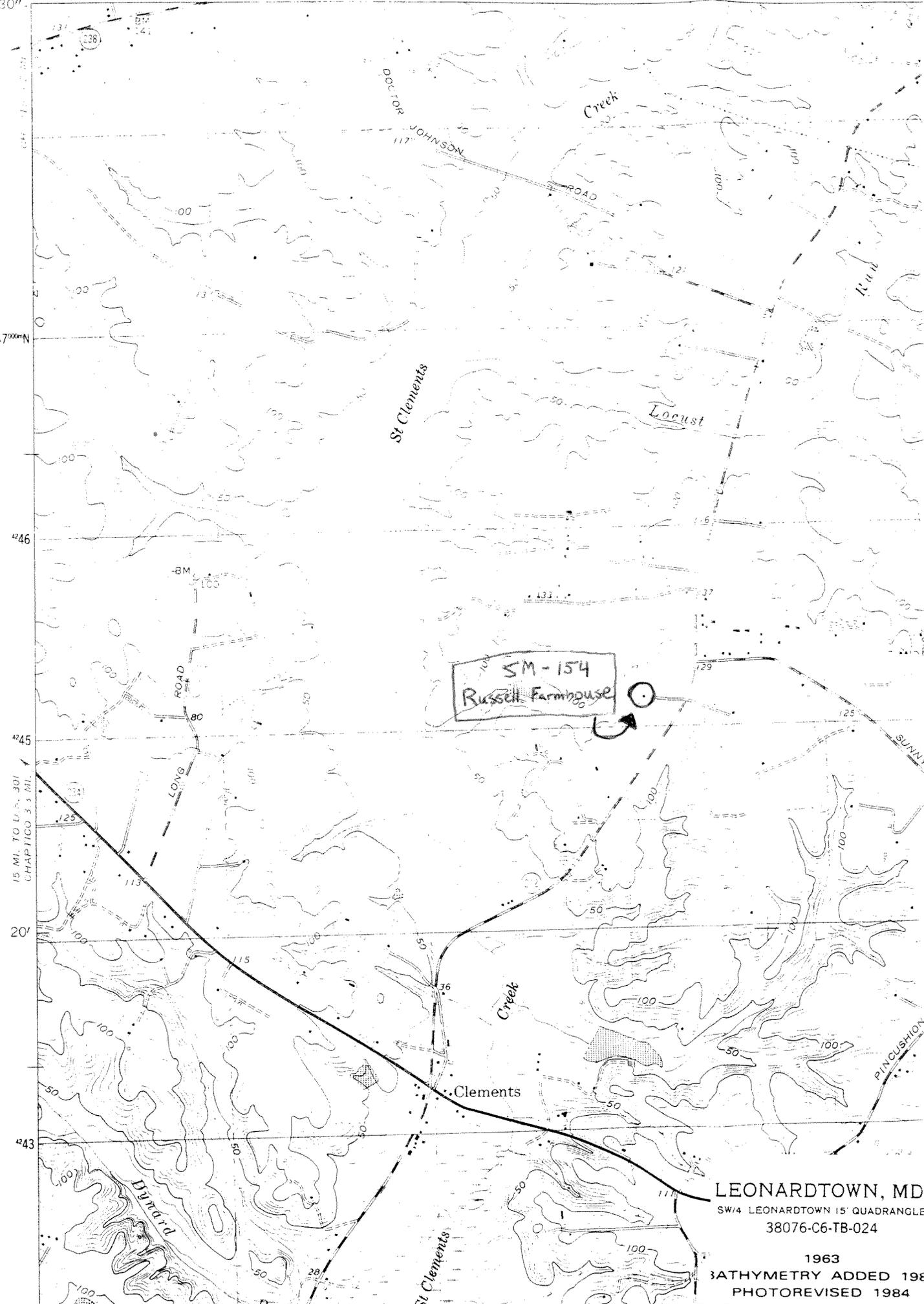
tobacco barn
early 20th century
braced frame
mortise & tenon → pegs

Corn
Crib
concrete
piers



Sunnyside

2-2-1-1-0-0



SM-154
Russell Farmhouse

15 MI. TO U.S. 301
CHAPTICO 3.5 MI.

LEONARDTOWN, MD.
SW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
38076-C6-TB-024

1963
BATHYMETRY ADDED 198
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 5660 I SW-SERIES V833



27a-184

Russell Farmhouse

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

MD SHPO

1 + 3 elevations

1 of 4

Feb 17



EM-154

Russell Formation:

St. Mary's County

1. R. Russell

1.1 SHPO

Site's elevations:

2 of 4

File 157



SM-154

Russell Firehouse

St. Mary's Family

Kirk Rancetta

Mid SHPO

W & N elevations:

0.64

1.00



SM-154

Russell Farnhouse

ca. Mary's County

Clark Runette

MD SHPO

Main block - mantle detail - S room - looking S

10 of 4

rec 97